## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

TRSE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01

STR-04 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /088 W

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R 151737Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0463

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EGEN, GW

SUBJECT: FRG VIEWS ON JULY 12-13 EUROPEAN COUNCIL

## 1. FRG OFFICIALS EXPRESS DEEP

SATISFACTION OVER OUTCOME OF BRUSSELS EUROPEAN COUNCIL, PARTICULARLY AGREEMENT ON DIRECT ELECTIONS TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WHICH THEY ATTRIBUTE IN LARGE MEASURE TO FRG EFFORTS. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT BRIEFED CABINET ALONG THESE LINES JULY 14.

2. JULY 15 EMBOFF SPOKE WITH THIELE, CHANCELLORY OFFICE DIRECTOR WHO ACCOMPANIED SCHMIDT TO BRUSSELS. THIELE SAID THAT PRIOR FRG BILATERALS WITH UK AND FRANCE HAD CLEARED WAY FOR FINAL SUMMIT DECISION ON DIRECT CONFIDENTIAL

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ELECTIONS. FRG BELIEVES THAT ALL EC PARTNERS MUST

RATIFY NEW ELECTORAL PROCEDURES, BUT IT EXPECTS ROUGH GOING IN FRANCE, UK, AND DENMARK. THIELE EXPLAINED THAT EUROPEAN COUNCIL HAD POSTPONED DISCUSSION OF WIDER POWERS FOR EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT SO AS NOT TO COMPLICATE FURTHER THOSE RATIFICATION DEBATES.

- 3. BY CONTRAST, THIELE SAID FRG EXPECTS EASY RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT OF ITS NATIONAL ELECTION LAW, BE-CAUSE ALL GERMAN PARTIES SUPPORT DIRECT ELECTIONS. FRG HAS ALREADY SENT TO BUNDESTAG A PAPER ON VARIOUS METHODS BY WHICH ELECTIONS MIGHT BE CONDUCTED. (INTERIOR MINISTER MAIHOFER TOLD CABINET JULY 14, ACCORDING PRESS SPOKESMAN GRUENEWALD, THAT DRAFT LAW READY WOULD BE BY NEXT SUMMER.) THIELE SAID THAT FRG ALSO DEBATING HOW TO DISTRIBUTE ITS 81 SEATS AMONG GERMAN LAENDER; MINOR QUESTION IS WHETHER SMALLER STATES OF BREMEN AND SAARLAND WILL HAVE OWN SEATS IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.
- 4. THIELE SUMMED UP FRG VIEW OF DIRECT ELECTIONS BY CITING CHANCELLOR'S PRESS REMARKS AFTER EUROPEAN COUNCIL TO EFFECT THAT EC MOVES SLOWLY, SOMETIMES GLACIALLY, ON WIDELY RANGING FRONTS. CONTRAST BETWEEN LUXEMBOURG AND BRUSSELS SUMMITS LESS MEANINGFUL THAN FACT THAT DIRECT ELECTIONS, AFTER LONG DEBATE, HAVE NOW TAKEN MAJOR STEP FORWARD. THIELE SAID FRG BELIEVES THAT NEW PARLIAMENT WILL INEVITABLY ACQUIRE GREATER POWERS.
- 5. ASKED ABOUT DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO ECONOMIC SUMMIT, THIELE SAID THAT CONTRARY EARLIER EXPECTATIONS SMALLER EC STATES HAD NOT USED BRUSSELS MEETING TO REVIEW THEIR UNHAPPINESS OVER EXCLUSION. HE NOTED FRG VIEW THAT ISSUES OF EC PRESENCE AND COORDINATION WILL LOOM MUCH LARGER IN CONSIDERING ANY FUTURE ECONOMIC SUMMIT.

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